RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 16th September, 1991/ 25 Bhadra, 1913 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, **The Vice-Chairman (Shri Bhaskar Annaji Masodkar)** in the Chair.

DEMAND FOR STATEMENT RE. ASSAM

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra): Are we expecting any statement on Assam?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): Let us see. Some special mention is there.

SHRI DAVID LEDGER (Assam): Mere special mention will not solve the problem. This is the second time when the army has been deployed in Assam. There is a large-scale harassment. The Minister should come out with a statement. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): It is not your prerogative only. Army was deployed when AGP Government was there in Assam. You have to answer that point also. (*Interruptions*).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): Mr. Narayanasamy, will you please take your seat.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY (Assam): This is unfortunate. The Government should come out with a statement.

DR. NAGEN SAIKIA (Assam): The Central Government should come out with a statement. This is most unfortunate.

SHRI DAVID LEDGER: The Government should make a statement and apprise us of the situation. There can be a political solution to the problem. There should be a dialogue. The army has been deployed for the second time in the State of Assam. What is the State Government doing there?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I remind you that during your Government army was deployed in Assam and you are responsible for that. Now there is insurgency and ULFA... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DAVID LEDGER: Why are you so touchy? (*Interruptions*).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): Please take your seat. (*Interruptions*). Mr. Narayanasamy, this is not fair. This is not fair. Please sit down.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I am reminding them. When they were in power, army was deployed. I am reminding them.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): Would you sit down? please sit down. This is not a matter to be dealt with like that. There is already a special mention. We will take it up and the Government is here. The Government will surely take note of the feelings of the House.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY (Uttar Pradesh): It is not at all a party matter, it concerns the whole House, the entire country.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): You can associate yourself with the special mention when it comes.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: It is not a question of my feelings. The situation in Assam is so critical and serious that it is destabilising the entire Eastern region. It gives scope for insurgency also. Therefore, it calls for a statement to be made in this House. We have not debated Assam situation so far. It is a serious matter. The conditions in Assam are deteriorating. There is complete anarchy and chaos in Assam. Therefore, let us have a statement from the Government.

SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA (Jammu and Kashmir): There is no reason why we should not discuss Assam.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): One by one, please. (*Interruptions*). Please sit down.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, an extraordinary situation has developed in Assam and the way in which the State Government is tackling the situation is really unfortunate. So, we request the Government to come out with a statement so that the House will have an opportunity to discuss and seek clarifications from the Government.

SHRI G. G. SWELL (Meghalaya): The purpose cannot be served just by special mention. Let the Government come out with a statement so that many of us can have an opportunity to seek clarifications. The situation in Assam is serious.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): Same question is there. The Home Minister is here. Let us see. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, the Home Minister is sitting here.

SHRI N. E. BALARAM (Kerala): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the Home Minister is sitting here... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): Let him say that he will make a statement.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): Yes, Mr. Mathur.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, स्थिति बहुत गम्भीर है । असम सरकार के लोगों के आरोप यह है कि उनकी जानकारी के बिना . . . (व्यवधान)

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Sir, the Minister is present.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: Sir, the Minister of State for Home is here. Let him react. Why can't he react? Let him make a statement... (*Interruptions*)...

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर: असम सरकार के लोगों का आरोप यह है कि उनकी जानकारी के बिना आर्मी गई है । नार्मली आर्मी या कोई भी सेन्ट्रल फोर्स वहां की सरकार की सहमति से जाती है । (व्यवधान) इसलिए आवश्यक है कि मंत्री जी आज बयान दें । स्थिति बहुत गम्भीर है ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): Let us no discuss it—I understand your feelings.

SHRI DAVID LEDGER: Sir, the whol House is demanding a statement.

SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA Sir, in Assam earlier when the army wa deployed, the conditions worsened, insur gency took place and the people got alie nated. We have the experience c Punjab and we have the experience c Jammu and Kashmir also. Therefore, is a very serious matter which affects th integrity, solidarity and welfare of t country and, therefore, the Home Mini ter must come forward with a stateme so that we could know as to what ha led to this and discuss the matter.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVA TY: Sir, I want to raise one point.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SH BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR Now please listen.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN TH MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY A FAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE I THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIR (SHRI M. M. JACOB): Sir, it may premature for me now to commit mys but, at the same time, I shall get touch with the Assam Government imm diately and I will come back to you. (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAV YA: Army has already been deployed.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: Army h already been deployed... (*Interruption*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SH BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR Let him complete.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM Sir, a number of people have been k led. ULFA people are killing the hosta

the army is also killing people. Some part of a civil war is going on in Assam. How can the Minister say that he is unable to say anything now? We want a categorical assurance that he is going to make a statement in this House... (*Interruptions*)....

SHRI DAVID LEDGER: Does the honourable Minister mean to say that they have deployed the army there without the consent of the State Government? ... (*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): I am sure the Government will take note of your feelings ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DAVID LEDGER: Does the Government mean to say that still they not aware ... (*Interruptions*).... What is all this? .... (*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): Please listen.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Please give a categorical assurance that you will make a statement...(*Interruptions*)....

SHRI DAVID LEDGER: The army has already been deployed and the Home Minister is saying that he is still waiting to get the details. What is this... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI M. M. JACOB: Sir, I did not say that the Government is not going to make a statement. I did not say ... (*Interruptions*)... You listen to me.... (*Interruptions* ...Mr. Vice Chairman Sir ... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN (Assam): What is going on in Assam? Don't try to escape it...(*Interruptions*)...What is going on in Assam? Don't try to escape it ....(*Interruptions*)...what is going on in Assam?...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. M. JACOB: If you don't allow me to speak, how can I? ... (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, this is not parliamentary...(*Interruptions*)...He should apologize for attacking the Home Minister ... (*Interruptions*)... He is attacking the Home Minister. It is not parliamentary. He should apologize.

SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN: Why should I? I am not talking nonsense ... (*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): Mr. Narayanasamy why do you enter into argument with them?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: When the AGP Government was there, the army was deployed in Assam. Then these people were sitting on the other side but they did not open their mouths. ...(*Interruptions*)...

What is this they are telling ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): Pleaese sit down. Don't add fuel to the fire. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: They don't listen, and they are telling that the Minister is not going to reply. They do not want the ULFA activities to be stopped here. (*Interruptions*). They have forgotten it now.

SHRI M. M. JACOB: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, it seems that I was misunderstood by some Members in the House. I only said, "Let me go and come back." But I could not go also. During the course of the day Government can certainly come with a statement. But the only thing is that we have to get the details. That is all I can say. (*Interruptions*).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): I think that is enough. During the course of the day he will make a statement.